

The House Committee on Transportation offers the following substitute to HR 1075:

A RESOLUTION

1 Dedicating certain portions of the state highway system; and for other purposes.

2 **PART I**

3 WHEREAS, Ottis L. Stonecypher, Sr., was born on February 8, 1930, at a private residence
4 in Habersham County; he was the second of four children in his family; and

5 WHEREAS, he was raised on a farm in the Clarkesville-Mount Airy area and attended the
6 Hills Switch School until he began his working life; and

7 WHEREAS, he had been married to Treelis Ward Stonecypher for almost 30 years at the
8 time of his death and he had three children, five grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, he was killed in an automobile accident on May 13, 2002, while returning from
11 a cattle sale; and

12 WHEREAS, Stonecypher's professional life was more than full, and he was known as many
13 things to many people; he was a businessman, a farmer, a mentor, an advisor, a leader, a
14 family man, and a friend; and

15 WHEREAS, at one point, he owned seven different Tastee-Freeze franchises all over
16 Northeast Georgia; eventually he withdrew from the franchises and maintained two
17 restaurants on his own, named Stoney's Family Restaurant, located in Clarkesville and
18 Cleveland, Georgia; and

19 WHEREAS, Stoney was also an avid cattle farmer, averaging between 500 and 600 head of
20 cattle at any given time, and particularly enjoyed this aspect of his life, joining several boards
21 and committees related to farming; he was a board member with North Georgia Cattlemen's

1 Association as well as the state-wide Georgia Cattlemen's Association, and he was on the
2 Georgia Beef Board; and

3 WHEREAS, he won many awards during his life and after his death; the livestock pavilion
4 at the Habersham County Fairgrounds was renamed and dedicated to Ottis Stonecypher, Sr.,
5 for his lifelong commitment to farming and raising cattle; the Habersham County Farm
6 Bureau building was renamed Ottis Stonecypher, Sr. Building, and they awarded him the
7 Outstanding Dedication and Leadership Award; the Georgia Farm Bureau honored
8 Stonecypher with the Lifelong Commitment Award; he also received the Georgia and
9 Habersham County Farm Bureau Community Leader Award and the Upper Chattahoochee
10 Farm Family of the Year Award; and

11 WHEREAS, he was always very community-minded, staying involved in most all aspects
12 of the betterment of Habersham County life; he was chairman of the board at Habersham
13 County Medical Center, president of Habersham County Farm Bureau, and sat on its board;
14 and he was also a board member of Georgia Farm Bureau and Community Bank and Trust;
15 and

16 WHEREAS, Stonecypher was in the Charter Class of Leadership Habersham and was a
17 member of the Mountaineer Shrine Club and Yaarab Temple; he was involved in many
18 aspects of North Georgia community life and was well respected in all he did; and

19 WHEREAS, he was a Korean War Veteran and is buried in the VFW Cemetery in Demorest,
20 Georgia; and

21 WHEREAS, everyone Stonecypher knew, and those who knew him, respected and admired
22 him as a determined, hard worker and a self-made man; a person would be hard-pressed to
23 find someone that did not like Stoney, as he would help anyone in any way he could,
24 throughout his life; his legacy is one of dedication and hard work, compassion and
25 generosity; he will be remembered as one of Northeast Georgia's finest citizens, and is
26 greatly missed.

27 **PART II**

28 WHEREAS, Sergeant Michael C. Hardegree was recently killed in a tragic accident while
29 serving his country in Baghdad, Iraq; and

WHEREAS, Michael was a native of Villa Rica, Georgia, where he grew up loving music and golf and graduated from Villa Rica High School in 2004; and

WHEREAS, after graduation, he carried on a family tradition of military service by becoming an army paratrooper, serving with valor and distinction during two tours of duty in Iraq; and

WHEREAS, this noble young soldier served with selfless patriotism and brought great honor to himself, his family, and his community; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Hardegree is survived by his parents, Stan and Cindy Hardegree of Villa Rica, and his sister, Beth Shaw of Fort Monroe, Virginia; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we pay tribute to this brave warrior.

PART III

WHEREAS, Edwin Hamilton was a long-time resident of Emerson, Georgia; and

WHEREAS, he served his country in the Navy during Word War II; and

WHEREAS, he managed the Colonial Food Store in Cartersville, Georgia, for many years; and

WHEREAS, he cooperated in allowing the acquisition of his homeplace for the construction of this road and bridge, even though he was displaced at a time in his life when relocating was very difficult for him and his wife; and

WHEREAS, Edwin Hamilton passed away in 2007 at the age of 86.

PART IV

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA that the members of this body celebrate the example of a life well-lived demonstrated by Ottis L. Stonecypher, Sr., and offer their sincerest condolences to his family and friends upon his passing.

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a portion of SR 197 from Mt. Airy to its intersection
2 with SR 17, in Habersham County, be dedicated as the Ottis L. Stonecypher, Sr. Memorial
3 Highway.

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of this body do hereby honor the life and
5 memory of Sergeant Michael C. Hardegree and extend to his family and friends their
6 sincerest condolences.

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the portion of SR 101 from the Carroll-Paulding County
8 line to the intersection with Industrial Boulevard, in Carroll County, Georgia, be dedicated
9 as the Sergeant Michael C. Hardegree Memorial Highway.

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of this body dedicate the new bridge on
11 SR 296 at SR 113, in Bartow County, as the Edwin Price Hamilton Memorial Bridge.

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Transportation is authorized and
13 directed to erect and maintain appropriate signs dedicating the road facilities named in this
14 resolution.

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
16 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the family of Ottis L.
17 Stonecypher, Sr., to the family of Sergeant Michael C. Hardegree, to the family of Edwin
18 Price Hamilton, and to the Department of Transportation.